

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PRESS INTERVIEW OF SEYCHELLES DELEGATION ON ITS
ARRIVAL FOR CONFERENCE OF PROGRESSIVE AFRICAN PARTIES IN
MADAGASCAR

1. AS REPORTED SEPTEL SEYCHELLES DELEGATION ON ITS ARRIVAL
IN MADAGASCAR MAY 18TH FOR CONFERENCE OF PROGRESSIVE AFRICAN
PARTIES, SPOKE TO PRESS ABOUT RECENT EVENTS IN THEIR
COUNTRY. THERE FOLLOWS VERBATIM TRANSLATION OF THIS INTER-
VIEW AS IT APPEARED IN OFFICIAL PRESS BULLETIN.

2. SPEAKING OF PRESENT SITUATION IN SEYCHELLES, MINISTER
HODOUL DECLARED: "THERE WAS AN ATTEMPTED COUP D'ETAT
FINANCED BY THE AGENTS AND FRIENDS OF EX-PRESIDENT MANCHAM
WHO WAS IN LONDON AND WHO HAS NOT CHANGED THIS HABITS.
THEY WANT TO RECOVER POWER IN THE SEYCHELLES AT ANY COST.
THE REACTIONARY FORCES DO NOT LACK FOR FRIENDS. THESE ARE
READY TO PUT AT THEIR DISPOSAL ALL THE MEANS WE ALREADY
KNOW ABOUT: THE FINANCING OF MERCENARIES.

3. OUR SERVICES FOLLOW VERY CLOSELY FOR US
THE ACTIVITIES OF THOSE WHO ARE AGAINST THE REGIME.
THEY CHOSE THE ABSENCE OF PRESIDENT RENE WHO WAS
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VISITING PEOPLES CHINA AND KOREA. PRESIDENT RENE
HAD LEFT THE COUNTRY FOR THE FIRST TIME. WE KNOW
THAT AT MOMBASSA THERE WAS A GROUP OF FOREIGN
MERCENARIES AND THAT MANCHAM AND COMPANY HAD
ACQUIRED A VERY FAST BOAT IN THE NAME OF A CERTAIN
SEYCHELLOIS WHO LIVES IN AFRICA. THEY WERE MAKING
THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE CROSSING. THERE WERE IN THE

SEYCHELLES SOME ACCOMPLICES, PEOPLE WHOM OUR SERVICES HAVE BEEN CLOSELY OBSERVING FOR SOME TIME; IT WAS THEN NECESSARY TO MAKE A DECISION, EITHER TO ACT BEFORE THEY LANDED OR ELSE THEM LAND WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF BLOODSHED AND ALL THAT MIGHT FOLLOW. WE THEREFORE TOOK THE DECISION TO ACT IMMEDIATELY AND ARRESTED EXACTLY 21 PERSONS WHO ARE PRESENTLY UNDER ARREST."

4. MINISTER HODOUL ALSO SPOKE OF THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO CHINA SAYING THAT CHINA WOULD BUILD LYCEES AND COLLEGES IN THE SEYCHELLES. HE SAID KOREA HAD PROVIDED 4,000 TONS OF CEMENT FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND SOME RICE. THE CHINESE ARE TO HELP THE SEYCHELLOISE GROW RICE, AND IF THAT IS NOT FEASIBLE, THE SEYCHELLOIS WILL HAVE TO CHANGE THEIR EATING HABITS. BARRETT

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